IN THE CLAIMS

1. - 3. (Cancelled)

4. (Previously presented) An I.V. flush syringe assembly comprising:

a barrel having an inside surface defining a chamber for retaining fluid, an open proximal end and a distal end including a distal wall with an elongate tip extending distally therefrom having a passageway therethrough in fluid communication with said chamber, said inside surface having a contact area at the distal end of said barrel, said contact area being a roughened portion of said inside surface,

a plunger including an elongate body portion having a proximal end, a distal end and a flexible stopper slidably positioned in fluid-tight engagement with said inside surface of said barrel for drawing fluid into and driving fluid out of said chamber by movement of said stopper relative to said barrel, said elongate body portion extending outwardly from said open proximal end of said barrel;

wherein said contact area has a higher coefficient of friction than said inside surface outside of said contact area for frictionally engaging said stopper when said stopper is in contact with said distal wall of said barrel for frictionally holding said stopper in a partially deflected position to prevent reflux of the fluid back into the chamber after fluid has been delivered from said chamber,

wherein the diameter of the outer surface of each portion of the stopper is less than or equal to the largest diameter of the inside surface of the distal end of the barrel having the contact area when the stopper is in the partially deflected position.

5. (Previously presented) The syringe assembly of claim 4 wherein said contact area further includes a plurality of annular deformations.

6. (Original) The syringe of claim 5 wherein said annular deformations are annular projections on said inside surface of said barrel.

7. - 17. (Cancelled)

18. (Previously presented) The syringe assembly of claim 4 including flush solution in said chamber.

19. (Previously presented) The syringe assembly of claim 18 further including a tip cap releasably connected to said tip of said syringe barrel for sealing said passageway.

20. (Previously presented) The syringe assembly of claim 18 wherein said flush solution is selected from the group consisting of saline flush solution and heparin lock flush solution.

21. (Previously presented) The syringe assembly of claim 4 further comprising a needle assembly including a cannula having a proximal end, a distal end and a lumen therethrough, and a hub having an open proximal end containing a cavity and a distal end attached to said proximal end of said cannula so that said lumen is in fluid communication with said cavity, said needle

assembly being removably attached to said tip of said barrel through engagement of said tip to said cavity so that said lumen is in fluid communication with said chamber.

22. (Previously presented) The syringe assembly of claim 4 wherein said stopper is made from material selected from the group consisting of thermoplastic elastomers, natural rubber, synthetic rubber and combinations thereof.

23. (Previously presented) The syringe assembly of claim 4 wherein said stopper can be removed from said contact area after said stopper has contacted said distal wall of said barrel.